REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for total consideration given the present application. Claims 1-25 are currently pending. Claims 1, 11, 15, 20, 24, and 25 have been amended through this Reply to further clarify the invention. Claims 1, 11, 15, 20, 24, and 25 are independent. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Applicants thank the Examiner for granting a personal interview with the Applicants' representative on January 17, 2008. During the interview, the Examiner agreed that an amendment to independent claims 1, 11, 15, 20, 24, and 25 to include, *inter alia*, "wherein said corrected digital image is generated based on a low estimated fixed pattern noise when a current frame of said raw digital image is less than a middle temperature intensity count, otherwise the corrected digital image is generated based on a high estimated fixed pattern noise" would overcome the outstanding prior art rejections. Although the Applicants' representative did not necessarily believe that further amendment is necessary to distinguish the claimed invention from the applied prior art references, these independent claims have been amended as agreed upon during the interview merely to expedite prosecution.

PRIOR ART REJECTION

Claims 1-2, 4-5, 7-10, 15-16, 19-21 and 24-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Alderson et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0159101)[hereinafter "Alderson"] in view of Endo (U.S. Publication No. 2004/0017891)[hereinafter "Endo"]. Claims 3, 11-14 and 17-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Alderson in view of Endo, and further in view of Harton et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2003/0107666)[hereinafter "Harton"]. Claims 6 and 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Alderson in view of Endo, and further in view of Tsuruoka (U.S. Publication No. 2004/0027469)[hereinafter "Tsuruoka"]. Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Alderson in view of Endo, and further in view of Kuwahara (U.S. Patent No.

5,317,420)[hereinafter "Kurahara"]. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections. Independent claims 1, 11, 15, 20, 24, and 25 have been amended to include, *inter alia*, "wherein said corrected digital image is generated based on a low estimated fixed pattern noise when a current frame of said raw digital image is less than a middle temperature intensity count, otherwise the corrected digital image is generated based on a high estimated fixed pattern noise." As acknowledged by the Examiner during the interview on January 17, 2008, none of the cited prior art references, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests the above-identified claim feature.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1, 11, 15, 20, 24, and 25 are in condition for allowance. Dependent claims 2-10, 12-14, 16-19, and 21-23 are at least allowable by virtue of their dependency on corresponding independent claim.
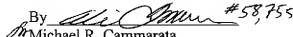
Conclusion

In view of the above remarks, it is believed that all pending claims are allowable. Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Ali M. Imam Reg. No. 58,755 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

MRC/AMI/bms

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: January 23, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By _____ #58,755

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